

SEVENTY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE

SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

NINETEEN HUNDRED
TWENTY-SIX



MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics' Mercantile Library

Mechanics' Institute Chess and Checker Club

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

OFFICERS

Seventy-first Annual Report

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Year Ending February 28, 1926

of the

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

for the

Year Ending February 28, 1926

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE OFFICERS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Year Ending February 28, 1926

BYRON MAUZY	President
TIREY L. FORD	Vice-President
OTTO VON GELDERN	Corresponding Secretary
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JOHN H. WOOD.....Secretary

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library
FRANCIS B. GRAVES.....Librarian

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

Mechanics' Institute Chess and Checker Club

57 Post Street
San Francisco, California

The Library now contains nearly ninety-nine thousand volumes. Special attention is given to the division of technology. Over four hundred periodicals and newspapers are on file. A chess and checker room is maintained where smoking is permitted. Lecture courses are held each season. Library open daily, 9:00 A. M. to 10:00 P. M. Sundays and Holidays, 11:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Chess Room, daily, 9:00 A. M. to 10:00 P. M.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Entrance Fee	\$ 1.00
Quarterly Dues (in advance).....	1.50
Life Membership	100.00

Non-residents may use the Library for one month on payment of fifty cents.

A member may introduce a friend (not a resident of the city) who will be allowed the use of the Library rooms for one month.

LIBRARY RULES.

Members may take out two books at a time and extra books on payment of five cents each.

New fiction may be kept one week only. Other books may be kept two weeks and the time may be extended for two weeks longer by giving notice at the Library desk, or by mail or telephone (Sutter 829). A charge of two cents a day will be made on books kept over time.

Members' requests for books to be purchased will receive careful consideration.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 4, 1926.

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute:

Twenty years have passed since your Board of Trustees commenced to purchase books to restore the Mechanics' Institute Library which was destroyed in the fire of 1906.

How well this work has progressed is evidenced by the fact that today we have a total of approximately one hundred thousand volumes, general in character, but particularly rich in the technological, scientific, useful arts, and fine arts sections. The increase of patronage in our reference department is the best indication of the value of these sections to the student and research members. It is not my intention to quote figures on the circulation of the various classes of books. They are shown in the Librarian's report. But it is interesting to note that there has been a marked increase in Science, Travel, Biography and History, and a corresponding decrease in Fiction.

Mention has been made at a previous members' meeting of the gift of the Library of the late Mr. Rudolph J. Taussig—a very fine collection of some three thousand volumes. I am happy to state that these books have been catalogued and are now installed in a special room on the second floor, where they are available to members. Mr. Taussig was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for twenty years, and for ten years he served as its President. The establishment of the Rudolph J. Taussig Memorial Library Room is, in some slight degree, an expression of appreciation of Mr. Taussig's work in behalf of the Institute.

I am also glad to report the receipt of another gift by Mr. Constant Meese, a member of the present Board of Trustees, of his private collection of approximately one thousand volumes on technical and business subjects. These books are now being made available to the membership.

The installation, last year, of new shelving in the reference department necessitated a rearrangement of the books in the library, and it was found to be advisable to transfer the books on Sociology from the second to the third floor.

Plans have been perfected tending toward the continuance of the policy of the Board to give greater service in the reference

and circulating departments. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of a greater number of books than heretofore, and the Library force has been augmented to take care of this increased work.

Since the last annual meeting the Library rooms have been thoroughly renovated and various changes have been made for the comfort and convenience of the membership.

During the year sixteen members completed thirty years of continuous subscription membership and, in accordance with a provision of the Constitution, have become automatically life members of the Institute.

The Lecture Committee was fortunate in securing the services of Dr. David P. Barrows for the 1925-1926 course of lectures. The subject chosen by Dr. Barrows was "New Governments for Old," and the attendance indicates that both the lecturer and the subject have met with the approval of our members.

The Secretary's report indicates that the finances of the Institute are in good shape and that a substantial surplus resulted from last year's operation. You will note that two thousand dollars of this surplus has been invested in bonds and the rest has been placed in banks at interest. An item of special note is that of the charge for heating the building. Some time ago a plant was installed at a cost of three thousand dollars; the Institute was then paying twenty-four hundred dollars per year for its heat; the record now shows that the same service has been rendered last year at a cost of seven hundred and twenty dollars, the saving for the first year amounting to more than one-half the cost of the entire plant.

The election for Trustees, held on the twenty-third day of last February, returned without opposition the incumbent members of the Board. It is, indeed, gratifying to know that the work of the Trustees, given without remuneration, has been so satisfactory to the membership. On behalf of the members of the Board I am sure that I may promise a continuance of this good work.

Credit is due to our employees for their loyal and faithful service. Mr. Wood, our Secretary, has by his many suggestions proven his worth and ability as a manager, and Mr. Graves, our Librarian, is again commended for his active work in furthering the Library's interest.

BYRON MAUZY, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For the Year Ending February 28, 1926.

To the Board of Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith financial statement of the Mechanics' Institute for the year ending February 28, 1926:

March 1, 1925, Cash on deposit in various banks.....\$ 18,836.55
Cash in contingent funds..... 225.00

Total Cash\$ 19,061.55

RECEIPTS.

Mechanics' Institute Building—rent collections from March 1, 1925, to February 28, 1926\$ 66,072.75

Interest, Ernest N. Atkins Memorial Fund.. 30.00

Interest, James Lick Fund..... 600.00

Interest, Commercial and Savings Account.. 812.19

Interest, Mortgage Receivable Accounts.... 1,933.26

Interest, Bonds 28,268.75

Library and General Administration:

Dues\$ 22,415.50

Entrance Fees 818.00

Books Paid For..... 147.32

Fines and Extra Books..... 2,892.15

26,272.97

Received for Investments Accounts:

Paid on Mortgages Account..... 1,200.00

Total Cash received.....\$ 125,189.92

\$144,251.47

EXPENDITURES.

Mechanics' Institute Building—operating expenses from March 1, 1925, to February 28, 1926:

Pay Roll\$ 14,525.00

Taxes 8,850.21

Insurance 1,197.21

Equipment 44.00

Heat 720.13

Light and Power..... 2,618.61

Water 239.27

Window Cleaning 385.00

Supplies 880.90

Repairs 1,777.54

General Expense 302.99

\$31,540.86

Library and General Administration:

Books, Binding and Periodicals..\$ 13,572.08

Furniture and Equipment..... 819.95

General Expense 2,354.86

Insurance 654.40

Legal Expense 250.00

Lectures 841.79

Printing and Stationery..... 494.10

Salaries 22,767.55

Supplies 335.13

Taxes 42.33

Monthly Bulletin 120.00

Rent of Library Rooms..... 18,720.00

Alterations to Library Rooms. 334.36

\$61,306.55

Accrued Bond Interest Paid..... 9.17

Post Street Building—Cost Account..... 938.64

Total\$ 93,795.22

Investments Account:

New Investments\$ 2,105.40

\$ 95,900.62

Cash on hand in various banks, Feb. 28, 1926..\$ 48,125.85

Cash on hand in contingent funds 225.00

Total Cash\$ 48,350.85

\$144,251.47

SUMMARY.

Cash on hand, March 1, 1925.....\$ 19,061.55

Total Receipts\$123,989.92

Total Expense 93,795.22

Excess Receipts 30,194.70

Received from Mortgages Receivable Account..... 1,200.00

\$ 50,456.25

DISTRIBUTION.

Cash in various banks, February 28, 1926....\$ 48,125.85

Cash in contingent funds..... 225.00

Total Cash\$ 48,350.85

Investments made from surplus..... 2,105.40

\$ 50,456.25

The net amount expended since April 18, 1906, on Books,
Binding and Periodicals has been..... \$216,453.45
The amount paid out for construction, equipment, etc.,
of the Post Street Building has been..... \$370,467.85

Insurance is carried as follows:

Books	\$100,000.00
Furniture	7,500.00
Post Street Building—Fire and Earthquake, each....	276,500.00

The Resources of the Mechanics' Institute are as follows:

Post Street lot covered by Mechanics' Institute Building.
First Mortgages for \$36,800.00 on San Francisco Real Estate.
Bonds to the par value of \$594,100.00, as follows:

\$241,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., City Hall 5%.
3,100.00	San Francisco, Cal., Municipal Railway 5%.
4,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Water 4½%.
2,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Fire Protection 5%.
29,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Golden Gate Park 3½%.
5,000.00	Berkeley, Cal., School District 5%.
2,000.00	Gilroy School District 5%.
10,000.00	Marin Municipal Water District 5%.
7,000.00	Oakland, Cal., School District 5%.
2,500.00	Oakland, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5½%.
5,000.00	Petaluma, Cal., City High School District 6%.
3,000.00	Pittsburg, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
3,000.00	Richmond, Cal., Municipal Harbor Improvement 6%.
1,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 4½%.
5,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 5%.
5,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 5½%.
7,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., New Levee 4½%.
4,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., School District 4½%.
8,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., High School District 4½%.
4,000.00	Salinas, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
5,000.00	San Jose, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
5,000.00	San Luis Obispo, Cal., School District 6%.
5,000.00	Santa Barbara, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
10,000.00	Santa Rosa, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
10,000.00	Stockton, Cal., School District 5%.
5,000.00	Washington Union High School District 5%.
25,000.00	Butte County, Cal., Highway 5%.
20,000.00	Fresno County, Cal., 5%.
5,000.00	Merced County, Cal., 5%.
7,000.00	Sonoma County, Cal., 5%.
5,000.00	California State Highway 4½%.
5,000.00	California State University Building 4½%.
10,000.00	United States Liberty 1st 4¼%.
81,500.00	United States Liberty 2nd 4¼%.
15,000.00	United States Liberty 3rd 4¼%.
30,000.00	United States Liberty 4th 4¼%.
Cash in various banks, \$48,350.85.	

Books, Furniture and Equipment of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. WOOD, Secretary.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 4, 1926.

To the President and Board of Trustees, Mechanics' Institute.

Gentlemen: I herewith submit the seventy-first annual report of the library for the year ending February 28, 1926:

Membership.

March 1, 1925.....	4,860
Added—Subscribing	812
Reinstated	7 819

Withdrawn—Life (Deceased).....	13
Subscribing	943 956

Membership, February 28, 1926.....	4,723
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During the year sixteen subscribing members who had paid continuously for 30 years were granted life memberships.

The membership is divided as follows:

Honorary	3
Life	690
Subscribing	4,030

4,723

Book Accessions.

Number of volumes listed March 1, 1925.....	94,992
Added by purchase	3,482
Added by binding	430
Added by gift	479 4,391

Less lost and paid for.....	79
Discarded and lost.....	108
Donated to Institutions.....	500 687

Net gain	3,704
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Number of volumes listed February 28, 1926.....	98,696
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Binding.

In addition to the 430 volumes noted under books added, 985 miscellaneous volumes were rebound at the bindery and 4,379 were repaired in the library.

Gifts.

3,309 unbound items, consisting of pamphlets, serials and newspapers, were presented to the library during the year.

Accessions by Classes.

	Purchased	Cost	Bound	Cost	Gifts	Total
General works	33	\$ 149.29	91	\$ 254.70	29	153
Philosophy	51	112.00	3	6.00	26	80
Religion	63	136.71	2	4.00	28	93
Sociology	184	619.14	60	124.55	145	389
Philology	4	18.14	..	.....	24	28
Science	143	507.35	70	148.80	61	274
Useful Arts	262	1,005.33	150	350.40	29	441
Fine Arts	139	530.34	31	76.50	15	185
Literature	219	451.45	6	12.00	12	237
Foreign Literature ..	24	26.29	5	11.00	35	64
Travel	160	563.31	6	12.20	5	171
Biography	227	793.51	1	2.00	9	237
History	112	432.67	5	10.20	8	125
Fiction and Children's books	1,861	3,130.47	..	.....	53	1,914
	3,482	\$8,476.00	430	\$1,012.35	479	4,391

Circulation.

There were issued for home use 164,347 volumes, an average of 13,695 volumes per month.

Table of Circulation Statistics.

General Works	92	Foreign literature	2,653
Philosophy	2,360	Travel	6,939
Religion	1,194	Biography	6,116
Sociology	3,109	History	3,448
Philology	36	Fiction	112,726
Science	2,833	Children's books	1,756
Useful Arts	5,833	Periodicals	2,297
Fine Arts	3,623		
Music	735		
Literature	8,597		164,347
Fiction	112,726	volumes, 68.59 per cent	
Children's books	1,756	" 1.07 " "	
Non-fiction	49,865	" 30.34 " "	

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS B. GRAVES, Librarian.

APPENDIX.

Year Ending Feb. 28	Subscribing	Membership Life and Honorary	Total	Volumes in Library	Circulation
1926	4,030	690	4,723	98,696	164,347
1925	4,170	690	4,860	94,992	169,631
1924	4,356	652	5,008	91,433	172,712
1923	4,317	657	4,974	87,855	172,902
1922	4,160	646	4,806	84,056	175,502
1921	3,842	650	4,492	80,776	150,376
1920	3,408	649	4,057	77,140	128,480
1919	2,994	653	3,647	73,128	101,728
1918	3,135	590	3,725	70,055	118,159
1917	3,144	598	3,742	65,875	132,721
1916	2,982	617	3,599	63,672	127,866
1915	2,862	626	3,488	56,740	131,687
1914	2,709	632	3,341	50,776	125,650
1913	2,855	643	3,498	44,527	118,998
1912	2,660	644	3,304	39,266	110,194
1911	2,385	651	3,036	35,392	88,753
1910	1,717	645	2,362	32,186	71,741
1909	2,034	646	2,680	28,324	83,042
1908	2,120	643	2,763	24,179	.....
1907	2,726	651	3,377	17,850	.....
April 18, 1906...	...	...	4,150	.....	.....

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS.

In Print.

Annual Reports, 1907 to date.

List of books on architecture. August, 1913.

List of books on building and building materials. December, 1913.

List of books on electrical engineering. June, 1916.

List of books on petroleum. January, 1917.

List of books on aeronautics and military and naval engineering. January, 1918.

List of books added during 1914-1925.

